GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:118
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2000
DEVELOPMENT OF BIO-MASS
TRILOCHAN KANUNGO

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to implement new technologies to develop bio-mass energy production in the country during the Ninth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a vast scope to develop bio-mass energy in the country;

(d) if so, whether the Government have formulated any plan to tap the potentiality in this area;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard particularly in the State of Orissa?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN)

(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) & (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 118 TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY,27TH NOVEMBER, 2000 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF BIOMASS BY SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO

(a)&(b) Yes Sir. Different technology routes such as gasification, combustion and co-generation are being actively developed to promote conversion of biomass materials such as agricultural, forestry and agro-industrial residues into electric power.

(c),(d) & (e) A total biomass power potential of about 19,500 MW has been estimated for the country. Under the National Programmes for Biomass Power/Co-generation and Biomass Gasifiers, a total biomass power capacity of 290 MW has so far been installed in the country.

Financial assistance is provided either by way of capital subsidy or interest subsidy for commercial projects. The Central and State Governments also provide fiscal and financial incentives including relief from taxes and duties, accelerated depreciation etc. 14 States have so far announced promotional policies for wheeling, banking, third-party sale and buy-back of electricity generated from commercial projects. Soft loans are provided by the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) for commercial projects. Financial assistance is also provided for preparation of detailed project reports, organization of business/interaction meets and training programmes.

(f) One 50 KW gasifier project has been approved for the State of Orissa.Biomass Resource Assessment Studies have been carried out in three talukas of Orissa State. Such studies have further been undertaken in ten talukas of the State.